United Nations A/71/1027

General Assembly

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Agenda item 69 (a) and (c)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance:
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Letter dated 21 August 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach hereto a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, dated 19 August 2017, on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 69 (a) and (c).

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

17-14474 (E) 240817

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Annex to the letter dated 21 August 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day

19 August marks the World Humanitarian Day, proclaimed in 2008 by the UN General Assembly. This day serves to draw attention to the civilians, affected by the humanitarian crises, and to advocate for the importance of providing life-saving assistance to them. It reminds all Member States of the need to uphold international humanitarian law and to protect civilian population. In 2017 the key message of the International Day is '*Civilians are not a target*'.

This day takes on special significance for Ukraine due to the humanitarian consequences of the ongoing Russian aggression. According to the United Nations, at least 2,500 civilians have been killed during three years of war in Donbas; the total number of injured is estimated at 7,000-9,000. The war continues to inflict injuries and take human lives: in the first half of the 2017 there were recorded more than 400 civilian causalities — a 61 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2016.

The ongoing ceasefire violations, large areas contaminated by mines presents threat to the lives of nearly 800,000 Ukrainians living near the 'contact line'. OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) has been regularly reporting numerous cases of presence of armed positions, weapons and armoured vehicles of the Russia-backed illegal armed groups close to populated areas, occupation of private properties and administrative buildings, particularly schools, kindergartens and hospitals.

About 1.6 mln. Ukrainians were forced to flee their homes and registered as internally displaced persons, amounting to 4 per cent of Ukraine's overall population. According to the United Nations, more than 3.8 million people residing on both sides of 'contact line' are in need of humanitarian assistance.

In its 2017 thematic report "Hardship for conflict-affected civilians in eastern Ukraine" the SMM observed that restrictions, imposed by the pro-Russian illegal armed groups on the access of international humanitarian aid organizations to occupied areas, hindered the delivery of relief supplies as well as the implementation of protection-related activities. Of particular concern is a continued practice of sending the so-called Russian humanitarian convoys to the armed militants-controlled areas of Donbas in violation of the Ukrainian legislation and international law. In this regard, we demand from the Russian Federation as aggressor State and occupying power to unequivocally implement the Minsk agreements, in particular to ensure safe access, delivery, and distribution of humanitarian assistance.

Ukraine is grateful for the assistance provided by the UN organizations, International Committee of the Red Cross, other partner states and international non-governmental organizations to meet the humanitarian challenges on the occupied territories. We look forward to continued international support in this regard.

Appropriate humanitarian financing is key to address daunting humanitarian challenges facing by Ukraine as a result of the Russian aggression. In this regard, we call on donor states to redouble their efforts to mobilize funds, necessary to ensure implementation of the UN 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan in Ukraine.

United Nations A/71/1028–S/2017/722

General Assembly
Security Council

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22 August 2017

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General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 31
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Letter dated 18 August 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach hereto a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the so-called "visit" of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, to the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yuriy **Vitrenko**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

17-14510 (E) 240817

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Annex to the letter dated 18 August 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Commentary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on so-called "visit" of President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin to the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine

On 18 August 2017 the Russian delegation headed by President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin began another "visit" to the Ukrainian city of Sevastopol temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation.

Ukraine considers this and other similar so-called "trips" of the Russian officials to the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as flagrant violation of sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, blatant and demonstrative neglect by the Russian side of universally recognized norms of the international law.

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol are and remain an integral part of Ukraine in its internationally recognized borders. It is recognized by the whole civilized world that has already provided its proper assessment of internationally illegal actions of the Russian Federation including by imposing appropriate sanctions against this country.

United Nations A/71/1029–S/2017/725

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 68 (c)
Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Letter dated 16 August 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine of 14 August 2017 on Russia's political repression of the citizens of Ukraine (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 68 (c), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yuriy **Vitrenko**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

17-14616 (E) 250817

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Annex to the letter dated 16 August 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on Russia's political repressions against the citizens of Ukraine

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its categorical protest and outrage over yet another wave of political repressions and human rights violations by the Kremlin regarding the citizens of Ukraine.

The Russian occupation authorities continue the discrimination on national and religious grounds in the occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, persecuting ethnic Ukrainians and Crimean Tatars.

At least five politically motivated sentences of imprisonment were announced, seven people were arrested or fined in Crimea over the past month. Also, at least three searches in the houses of the Crimean Tatars were conducted over the past week.

The cynical mass searches, a time-tested NKVD practice, as well as a series of arrests of those supported the 76-year-old Server Karametov who was arrested for the picket, are evidence of the continuation of the Kremlin regime's bold attack against everyone who disagree with the occupation.

Despite numerous appeals by Ukraine and the international community demanding the immediate release of all illegally detained and sentenced Ukrainians, the Russian leadership continues a shameful practice of using Ukrainian citizens as the hostages of its aggressive policy against our state, making false accusations.

We express grave concern regarding the deteriorated health of the Ukrainian citizen Ruslan Zeitullayev, illegally sentenced on the territory of Russia, who on July 27, 2017, began another hunger strike to protest against Russian legal arbitrariness due to his unjustified sentencing to 15 years of deprivation of liberty. We demand that Russian side immediately allow Ruslan Zeitullayev to be examined by Ukrainian doctors.

Ukraine is demanding that the Russian Federation release all illegally detained citizens of Ukraine immediately and without any further preconditions, and cease the practice of political persecutions and repressions against our compatriots.

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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 31
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Letter dated 21 August 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, I am transmitting for your attention the position paper of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh Republic) on the policy of Azerbaijan aimed at the isolation of Artsakh (see annex).

I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Zohrab **Mnatsakanyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

17-14623 (E) 280817

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Annex to the letter dated 21 August 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Position Paper of the Republic of Artsakh on the policy of Azerbaijan aimed at isolation of Artsakh

The allegations of Azerbaijan on the so called illegal nature of economic and other activities in the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh Republic) lack international legal basis and are aimed at justifying Azerbaijan's policy of isolation of Artsakh and collective punishment of its population.

It should be noted that international law does not recognize any limitation over human rights of individuals or groups based on the status of the country of their residence and contains no discriminatory provisions in relation to non-recognized states.

According to the international instruments, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the realization of individual and collective human rights and fundamental freedoms including economic and social rights must not be dependent on the status of the territory where peoples live.

Moreover, the UN Covenant on Political and Civil Rights and the UN Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights empower people to pursue their economic, social and cultural development by the virtue of the right to self-determination. The UN Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by its Article 1.2 establishes that "All peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit, and international law. In no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence."

The lack of recognition by other states cannot affect the ability of a state to engage in international relations, including carrying out foreign economic activity.

The legitimacy of such engagements has been confirmed by international arbitration practice and recognized by international courts. In particular, when considering the case on Namibia, the UN International Court of Justice has made a conclusion that the legal acts and judicial actions of de facto existing unrecognized states should not be rejected.[1] A similar approach has been applied by the courts of different states, inter alia, by the New York Court on the "*Salimoff & Co. v. Standard Oil of N.Y.*" case of 1933 and the British Court on the "*Carl Zeiss Stiftung v. Rayner & Keeler Ltd.*" (№ 2) case of 1966. These court decisions set up important precedents and were invoked in other similar proceedings.

We have repeatedly pointed out to the destructive and provocative nature of the attempts by the Azerbaijani authorities to involve the international community in the implementation of a policy of isolation of Artsakh that has been officially declared as a priority by the President of Azerbaijan.

The aggression unleashed against Artsakh by Azerbaijan in April 2016 demonstrated that this policy has been an integral part of the overall strategy of Azerbaijan aimed at expelling the indigenous population of Artsakh from its

[1] Advisory Opinion on "Legal Consequences for States of the Continued Presence of South Africa in Namibia (South-West Africa) notwithstanding Security Council Resolution 276 (1970)", which states that "non-recognition should not result in depriving the people of Namibia of any advantages derived from international co-operation".

ancestral homeland. Trying to isolate the Republic of Artsakh in political, economic, cultural and information spheres and prevent people to people contacts, Azerbaijan seeks to create favourable conditions for resumption of hostilities. This is confirmed by the fact that Baku consistently rejects any proposals to reduce tensions and enhance stability and predictability on the Line of Contact, including the agreements reached at the summits in Vienna and St. Petersburg on 16 May and 20 June 2016, respectively.

The logic of confrontation, aggressively imposed by Azerbaijan, is not only a direct threat to peace and security in the South Caucasus, but also undermines the very purposes and principles of the United Nations, including the goal "to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character".

On numerous occasions the authorities of Artsakh expressed their readiness to interact with Azerbaijan in the framework of confidence building measures particularly in areas of economic and environmental cooperation. However, Azerbaijan has always refused all confidence building measures even those that were designed in a status neutral manner.

The actions of Azerbaijan, which refuses to engage in dialogue and promotes isolation, are not aimed at resolving the existing problems in the region, but at their escalation. We firmly believe that dividing lines can be overcome only through the promotion and development of international co-operation based on the principle of inclusion, rather than exclusion.

The idea of the interrelationship between economic prosperity and peaceful and friendly relations among nations permeates international legal instruments on economic, social and cultural rights. As pointed out in Article 55 of the UN Charter "With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the United Nations shall promote: a. [...] conditions of economic and social progress and development; b. solutions of international economic, social, health, and related problems". Moreover, according to Article 9 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States "All States have the responsibility to co-operate in the economic, social, cultural, scientific and technological fields for the promotion of economic and social progress throughout the world ..."

The policy of Azerbaijan aimed at isolation of Artsakh is a blatant violation of the right to development, which is rooted in the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the two International Human Rights Covenants. The Declaration on the Right to Development defines such right as "an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized" (Article 1).

The right to development can be invoked both by individuals and peoples and includes: full sovereignty over natural resources; self-determination; popular participation in development; equality of opportunity; the creation of favourable conditions for the enjoyment of other civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

That very right imposes obligations on States to co-operate with each other in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development (Article 3, The Declaration on the Right to Development). Moreover, UN GA resolution 48/141 which established the post of High Commissioner for Human Rights includes the

mandate "to promote and protect the realization of the right to development and to enhance support from relevant bodies of the UN system for this purpose".

The elected authorities of the Republic of Artsakh are ready for such co-operation with UN member states and are taking consistent steps to ensure a stable and transparent framework for economic activity in the Republic. In order to attract foreign investments, policies have been pursued to create a favourable investment climate. Certain tax benefits and guarantees have been established by law. Ongoing reforms did produce positive results: the volume of investments into the economy has increased (there are more than 160 companies in the Republic with foreign participation), annual economic growth has averaged 10 per cent over the past few years, and all planned social programmes are being implemented.

We strongly believe that the people of Artsakh should not remain hostage to Azerbaijan's aggressive policy, which is the main obstacle to the settlement of the Azerbaijani-Karabakh conflict. The unresolved conflict cannot serve as an excuse for the infringement of political, economic and social rights of the population of Artsakh. The authorities of the Republic of Artsakh, for their part, are making every effort to ensure that everyone living in the Republic can equally enjoy all rights and freedoms, enshrined in fundamental international documents, to freely explore and realize his/her potential. By that the authorities of Artsakh contribute to the consolidation of a peaceful, stable and prosperous region of the South Caucasus.

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 34
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Identical letters dated 9 August 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and in response to the barrage of claims and fabrications from Israel and its systematic efforts to distort reality, the latest of which were the identical letters dated 20 June 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2017/526), I should like to inform you of the following:

- It is worth noting that, as in his earlier letters, the Permanent Representative of Israel completely ignores his country's obligations under Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). Indeed, he gives himself licence to determine how Lebanon should implement that resolution and how the Lebanese Army should interact with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).
- The claims that the Permanent Representative of Israel made in his letter provide the clearest evidence of his country's spying activities. We have warned repeatedly of those activities, because they flagrantly violate the sovereignty of Lebanon and blatantly contradict the obligations of Israel under resolution 1701 (2006).
- Green without Borders is a national association for the protection and development of forests, the environment and animal resources that is licensed by the Lebanese State pursuant to Notification No. 1127 and has several branches, one of which is in Labbunah. UNIFIL has confirmed that this association is involved in forestry activities. According to the Associate Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, Ms. Eri Kaneko, "over the last two years, UNIFIL has observed tree-planting activities undertaken by the non-governmental organization as is their stated objective. UNIFIL has not observed any unauthorized armed persons at the location or found any basis to report a violation of the resolution (1701 (2006) concerning the ceasefire)."
- These allegations are part of the efforts of Israel to divert international attention from its repeated violations of Lebanese sovereignty. Since the start

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of the current year, Israel has violated the sovereignty of Lebanon 648 times (209 times by sea, 98 times by land and 341 times by air). We have documented all of those violations in six letters of complaint that were addressed to you. In accordance with our request, all of the letters were issued as documents of the United Nations. Moreover, in successive reports, the Secretary-General has documented Israel's ongoing occupation of northern Ghajar and surrounding areas, in flagrant violation of resolution 1701 (2006) and the sovereignty of Lebanon, as well as Israel's occupation of the Shab'a Farms and the Kafr Shuba hills.

- It is well known that the Lebanese Army and UNIFIL coordinate their operations, and their cooperation has continued to grow since the adoption of resolution 1701 (2006). They engage with one another through a strategic dialogue that is constantly and systematically being strengthened, with a view to mobilizing international support for building the capacity of the Lebanese Army and enabling it to fulfil its duties, maintain stability and tranquillity, and defend the sovereignty of Lebanon. The Lebanese Government trusts that you will continue to support UNIFIL in that regard.

We call upon the international community to reject the above-mentioned allegations and to condemn them, as well as Israeli threats against the Government and people of Lebanon, because they threaten to undermine the calm that Lebanon strives so hard to maintain along its southern border, and because they present a clear threat to security and peace in the region and, consequently, throughout the world.

I ask you to take the measures required to deter Israel from continuing to make grave threats against the security of my country and the safety of its people and its civil and official institutions, and from committing serious violations of my country's sovereignty, and to compel Israel to implement all the provisions of resolution 1701 (2006).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

United Nations A/71/1032–S/2017/735

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Security Council

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30 August 2017

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General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 61
Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Letter dated 25 August 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour herewith to transmit the present letter with regard to the U.S.-south Korea Ulji Freedom Guardian 17 joint military exercise that have been forced by the U.S. from the date of 21 August 2017, disregarding repeated concerns and oppositions from the international communities.

The U.S. by no means could never camouflage its aggressive true nature of the military drill, though they widely announcing of the joint military exercise as of "annual" and "defensive" manoeuvres.

It is well to know about how intensively the nature of the joint military exercise is provocative and aggressive, if we ascertain only a fact of the purpose of this military drill is concentrated on the target of "decapitation operation" and "secret operation" to remove the supreme headquarters of the DPRK under "Operation Plan 5015".

It is nothing but only the hysteric reckless undertaking just like to add fuel to open fire that the U.S. is staging such kind of provocative and aggressive joint military exercise at this critical moment of the Korean peninsula where the situation is just like a time bomb that nobody sure when to blow up.

All the situation prove vividly that the danger of nuclear war is approaching from the U.S. which remains doggedly unchanged in its sordid intention to conquer the DPRK by force and the U.S. is only the ringleader for destruction of the peace.

Acknowledging that the joint military exercise staged by the U.S. in collaboration with south Korea constitutes grave threats not only to the Korean peninsula but also to the international peace and security, the DPRK strongly requests the Security Council of the United Nations to place the issue of the joint military exercise as its emergency agenda and discuss in the meeting with no further delay.

Should the Security Council, assuming its primary mission for the maintenance of international peace and security, ignores again the DPRK's justified requests,

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then it would only come to make a public disclosure of the Security Council by itself that generated only into the marionette and political tools of the U.S.

Once the U.S. flagrantly revealed its hostile intention against the DPRK by responding with the aggressive joint military exercise, despite warnings from DPRK of watching over a little bit longer the behaviour of the U.S., it is the fair and square self-defensive right of the DPRK to cope with reckless aggressive war manoeuvres and the U.S. would be wholly responsible for any catastrophic consequences to be entailed from the result.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Genera Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative